

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO

CORPS OF ENGINEERS 1325 J STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814-2922

August 11, 1997

Regulatory Branch (W-D) 199750455

Anthony Gallegos Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801

DIV. OF OIL. GAS & MINING

Dear Mr. Gallegos:

TTENTION OF

This letter is in reply to your June 30, 1997 letter requesting confirmation that the reclamation work proposed at the Yerian Mine site will not require authorization from our office. The work would be located along the Green River in Section 35, Township 6 South, Range 21 East and Section 2, Township 7 South, Range 21 East in Uintah County, Utah.

We have reviewed the description of this project in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, under which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulates the discharge of dredged and fill material and excavation in waters of the United States, including streams, rivers and wetlands. Based on the information provided, including a June 25 and August 5, 1997 telephone conversations between you and Michele Waltz of our office, none of the proposed work involves excavation or the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United Therefore, no authorization is required from the Corps of Engineers in order to do this work. However, we recommend that the mine operator be required to revegetate areas within the riparian zone with woody species as well as the herbaceous seed that has been proposed. Rooted cuttings (versus pole plantings) of cottonwood and willow species native to the work area, planted approximately 6 feet apart, should both help to restore a wooded canopy in the area and at least partially discourage invasion by tamarisk and russian olive.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel to contact Ms. Waltz at our Utah Regulatory Office, 1403 South, 600 West, Suite A, Bountiful, Utah 84010 or telephone (801) 295-8380, extension 16.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Schwinn

Chief, Utah Regulatory Office

Enclosure

